

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 AID-05 OES-05 EPA-04 EB-07 ABF-01

OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ARA-10

EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 /092 W
----- 042107

R 271715Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6049

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS USUN 0739

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, EAID

SUBJECT: UNEP CONTRIBUTIONS

REF: NAIROBI 1810

1. DURING WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER GROUP (WEO) MEETING OF FEBRUARY 25, LETTER SET FORTH AS PARA 3 WAS ADDRESSED TO CANADIAN PERMREP RAE IN HIS CAPACITY AS WEO CHAIRMAN AND PROVIDED TO WEO REPRESENTATIVES.

2. BRIEF REFERENCE TO THIS LETTER WAS MADE FEBRUARY 26 AT WATER CONFERENCE PREPCOM IN RELATION TO DRAFT RESOLUTION REGARDING ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE FINANCING FROM UNEP. DEPT'S ATTENTION IS CALLED TO FACT THAT BOTH PARA 5 OF GA RES 3513 (XXX) AND CNR DRAFT RES (E:C.7/L.45) BOTH CONTAIN LANGUAGE RE "UNEP FINANCING" OF CONFERENCE WITHOUT SPECIFYING WHETHER RESOURCES WOULD COME FROM UN REGULAR BUDGET OR UN ENVIRONMENT FUND.

3. QUOTE..
FOLLOWING OUR DISCUSSIONS ON FRIDAY, 20 FEBRUARY, DURING WHICH I TOUCHED ON THE STATUS OF THE FUND OF UNEP AND REQUESTED YOU TO KINDLY LET THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WEO GROUP KNOW OF IT, I WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE HERE SOME OF THE FACTS WHICH I MENTIONED DURING OUR DISCUSSIONS.

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THE MAIN PROBLEM IS THAT PAYMENTS (CONTRIBUTIONS) BY GOVERNMENTS FALL BEHIND THEIR PLEDGES. FOR 1975 THE PLEDGES (WHICH WE, IN THE LIGHT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL ENDORSEMENT, CONSIDER AS ESTIMATED RESOURCES) WERE US\$20 MILLION. WE RECEIVED ONLY SLIGHTLY OVER US\$12 MILLION. WE ENTERED 1976 WITH A CARRY-OVER CASH AMOUNT OF ABOUT US\$13 MILLION. WE HAVE FIRM COMMITMENTS (PAYMENTS DUE FOR ON-GOING PROJECTS) OF ABOUT US\$7 MILLION AND SIMILAR FIGURES FOR THE FIRST AND SECOND QUARTERS OF 1976, RESPECTIVELY. WE ARE REQUESTING THE GOVERNING COUNCIL IV TO APPROPRIATE US\$34 MILLION FOR 1976 FOR FUND PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES. UNLESS WE GET FIRM COMMITMENTS FROM GOVERNMENTS TO CONTRIBUTE (PAY) BEFORE THE END OF 1976 A MINIMUM OF US\$29 MILLION, IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO PROCEED WITH THE OBLIGATIONS APPROVED AND REQUIRED BY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL.

FURTHER IT IS VERY ESSENTIAL TO GET DURING THE GOVERNING COUNCIL IV INDICATIONS FROM GOVERNMENTS OF THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS BEYOND 1977 WHICH IS THE LAST YEAR OF THE FIRST FIVE - YEAR PERIOD OF THE FUND OF UNEP. I SHOULD BE VERY MUCH OBLIGED IF YOU WOULD KINDLY CIRCULATE THIS INFORMATION TO YOUR COLLEAGUES AND REQUEST THEM IN TURN TO SENSITIZE THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO THE SITUATION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR MOST APPRECIATED CO-OPERATION. I REMAIN, DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR, YOUR SINCERELY
(SIGNED)
MOSTAFA K. TOLBA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
UNQUOTE..
BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENVIRONMENT, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN00739
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760076-0853
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976023/aaaaabuj.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NAIROBI 1810
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: castelsl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by castelsl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNEP CONTRIBUTIONS
TAGS: SENV, EAID, UNEP, (TOLBA, MOSTAFA K), (RAE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006